

PATENT

Examiner:

Art Unit: 1645

Padmavathi Baskar

Docket No.: 22221/1023 (RU-429)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : O'Donnell et al.

Serial No. : 10/048,071

Cnfrm. No. : 1435

Filing Date : July 28, 2000

For : DNA REPLICATION PROTEINS OF GRAM

POSITIVE BACTERIA AND THEIR USE TO SCREEN FOR CHEMICAL INHIBITORS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the December 3, 2004, written restriction requirement, applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Group VIII (i.e. claims 1, 35-39, and 55-57) drawn to isolated *dnaN* gene. The elected subject matter encompasses DNA encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No: 28, including the DNA of SEQ ID No: 27. Applicants submit that the claims of the present application are closely related and, therefore, require common areas of search and consideration. Since no benefit is derived from imposing this restriction requirement, it should be withdrawn in its entirety.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 3, 2005

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.

1/3/05

Laura L. Trost